

Our Dumb Animals.

"WE SPEAK FOR THOSE WHO



CANNOT SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES."

"I would not enter on my list of friends,
Though graced with polished manners and fine sense,
Yet wanting sensibility, the man
Who needlessly sets foot upon a worm." — *Courier*.

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Our Dumb Animals.

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THE RIDERLESS WAR-HORSES.

In almost the last letter written by Lieut.-Col. Pemberton from the seat of war before his untimely death, there was a passage which strikes us as describing one of the most pathetic of all the incidents of war, though the pathos of it relates, not to the human belligerents, but to their only active allies in the animal world, the horses. A Prussian hussar, who had got off his horse to carry water to two wounded and dying comrades, was killed, with the poor soldiers he was relieving, by a shell, in the very act of pouring the water down the throat of one of them; and just then his regiment moved off, his empty horse following in the ranks: whereupon Lieut.-Col. Pemberton remarked, "Only those who have seen a battle-field can form a notion of the extraordinary way in which the horses, as long as they have a leg to crawl on, will follow the regiment to which they belong. I saw, what, evidently, had been sergeants' horses, keeping their position in rear of their squadron, wheeling with it, and halting, exactly as if their riders were on their backs, and all the time streaming with blood. Poor creatures! they are indeed to be pitied; for they have neither Vaterland, promotion, nor the coveted medal to think of, whatever may be the issue; and few indeed are there, which have been in action, which have not some honorable scars to show." Again: the German Post relates, "that after the slaughter at Vionville, on the 18th of August, a strange and

touching spectacle was presented. On the evening-call being sounded by the first regiment of Dragoons of the Guard, 602 riderless horses answered to the summons, jaded, and in many cases maimed. The noble animals still retained their disciplined habits."

PITIFUL INCIDENTS.

The image of these poor riderless, bleeding creatures going through their drill to the last with punctilious precision, without any regard to the absence of the only hands which could have enforced the duty, and in utter unconsciousness, that, with the loss of their riders, the reasons for their evolutions had disappeared, strikes us as one of the most pitiful, though, of course, far from the most grievous, of the incidents of the battle-field. The poor things themselves, of course, suffered no more, probably rather less, from their works of military supererogation, than they would have suffered, if, with the same wounds, they had been bearing about their proper riders; and yet there is something that touches the heart much more in this evidence of complete failure to apprehend their part in the system of things to which they belonged, in connection with their unremitting efforts to discharge to the utmost of their failing powers a task, the object of which had ceased to exist. It excites a less degree of the same kind of pity which we feel for alienation of mind, when the sufferer diligently makes preparation every day, at the same hour, for the comfort of one who is long dead. Of course, there is in it none of the contrast between undying love and dead intellectual power, which makes scenes of the latter kind so profoundly pathetic; but then, on the other hand, there is a contrast between the admirable fortitude and discipline of which an animal like the horse is capable, and the entire absence of any of those intellectual or moral roots to fortitude and discipline which have fed them in human character, going beyond the analogy even of alienation of mind. That the implanted lessons given by man, and the new sense of collective order they have conveyed, although they have never carried their own drift and meaning with them, should triumph so completely over the animal impulses of pain and lassitude, and this, too, when there is no one left to appeal to the creature's spirit, and command its obedience, fills us with pity, probably because it gives us so vivid a picture of a creature whose characteristic nature is far more than touched, absolutely controlled and exalted, by the influences of a higher life, in which, nevertheless, it can reach to no full or satisfying participation. . . . Of course, no one doubts that the sense of

duty, like all other conceptions of the higher order, is far less clearly developed in the lower animals than in man; but what makes the artificial life, the life of discipline, so much more capable of development, and so much more tenacious, in one animal than in another? What is it that makes the horse and the dog faithful unto death in the trusts which have been imposed upon them by man, while almost every other animal loses, under physical pain and weakness, the thin varnish of artificial habits? Surely it is that these creatures do feel a profound pride in responding faithfully to the authority of a being above themselves, directly they apprehend its drift; that a real nature in themselves fulfils itself in this implicit obedience to what they have been taught; and that, therefore, in some dim sense, the tendency to obey man and his lessons contains for them the clear rudiments of an ethical obligation.

PROUD OF THE COMPANIONSHIP OF MAN.

Were not this at least the impression conveyed to us by horses and dogs which persist, even in the worst moments of animal anguish, in the effort to carry through punctually the artificial lessons they have been taught, why should such incidents as those narrated by Lieut.-Col. Pemberton and the German papers move us so profoundly? Whether we interpret the phenomenon rightly or not, it is clear, we think, that every one does naturally interpret it as implying a certain pride in the lessons these animals have learned from man, and an attachment to their duties in connection with man, which elevates the purely animal nature. And here lies the pathos of the scene, — the wounded and riderless war-horses punctually but vainly muster to the sound of the trumpet, being proud of a yoke and a companionship of which they only dimly feel the ennobling character; while at the same time, in so many distracted regions of human life, men who know the full meaning of order and of anarchy, and who feel in their hearts that they are due to the same sort of trumpet-call, fling off the yoke of which they know the obligation, and become riderless, as it were, by their own will. Is it that complete loyalty, to human authority at least, is always half blind, and loses in force with every gain of insight into the complex nature of the fascination exerted over us? The higher animals are loyal, because, while they feel constantly that they are really in the hands of man, cared for, guided, in every way led, by him, they cannot criticise the superior nature thus put over them, but only feel that it is superior. But once let in a reason common to the leader and the led, and you

lose all the simplicity of the loyal feeling, and find minute spheres of repulsion arising within the general spheres of attraction, which hamper and embarrass the attitude of moral submission. The horse and the dog, once they have gained the feeling of loyalty to their master, dispute as little the caprices, as the wisest exercise, of his will, regarding not his motives, but only his authority. Men, on the contrary, are often really at a loss to find the authority they can fully respect. . . .

SPONTANEOUS LOYALTY.

In puzzles arising out of the human anarchies of life, the poor riderless war-horses, sensible only of the controlling, and, we must add, ennobling influence they have received from their training by man, and of a certain joy in organization and joint action, have, of course, no share. Without any insight into the reason of the discipline to which they have been subjected, they carry it on spontaneously when there is no one to enforce it, because it has taken such a hold of their life as influences limited by doubts and reasons seldom take. And the spectacle touches the springs of pity in us for several reasons, — partly, that the faithful creatures should be so spontaneously loyal to their duty all in vain; partly, that they should be so irrationally faithful to authority, when men are so often rationally unfaithful to much higher authority; partly, again, that they remind us, not only of what men don't do which they ought to do, but of what they do do which they ought not, when they obey an obsolete summons, which ought to have lost all its meaning for them, far more assiduously than they obey a living authority of the highest claims. Indeed, men are often loyal to a dead custom, because it is dead, and because obedience to it can now only be spontaneous, when they would resent heartily the check of the reins in a living hand. That was not the poor horses' cases. Missing the rein, they obeyed the bugle as the next symbol they could get of an authority they really loved. They did not resist the call to battle while they had a master to carry, and obey it only when the master hand was gone, which is too much the case with those amongst our own race who love to show their obedience to an authority that has passed away. — *Spectator*.

HIS BEST FRIEND.

THERE arrived in Louisville, Ky., recently, a venerable sick man, who had trudged all the weary way from Mississippi, on foot, to obtain hospital treatment, being accompanied by a small brown dog. When told that he must give up his dog before he could go to the hospital, the poor old man took the dog in his arms, and, with the tears running down his face, replied, that the dog was the best friend he had in the world, and that he would rather die from want in the street, with his dog "Sim," than live in comfort without him. This exhibition of affection was irresistible; and the commissioner gave him a permit to enter the hospital, and carry his dog with him. — *Youth's Companion*.

CAT AND SQUIRRELS. — A short time ago, men at work for Sherman Butler, in Clarksfield, Huron County, Ohio, caught four squirrels, which they brought to the house for the little girl. They were quite young, and she fed them with a quill. It was suggested to put them in the cats' nest, where there were four young kittens, and await the result when the cat made the discovery. She took them all into her care, and raised them. — four kittens and four squirrels. Hundreds of persons have been to see them.

SLANDER ON BRUTES. — I do not believe in calling some men brutes. The term is too general. It is not unfrequently the case that the only wrong done is the slander on the brute. How frequently we hear the remark, "Drunk as a beast!" Beasts do not get drunk, and it is a shame to rob them of their good name. . . .

An animal may not be entitled "to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness;" but he should be permitted the proprietorship of his good name; and to filch that from him is what I protest against. — *Corr. Animal Kingdom*.

THE DOG OF THE REGIMENT.

"WELL, the way we came across him was this: We were on the march, and 'twas getting late, When we reached a farmhouse, deserted by all Save this mastiff here, who stood at the gate. Thin and gaunt as a wolf was he, And a piteous whine he gave 'twixt the bars; But, bless you! if he didn't jump for joy, When he saw our flag with the stripes and stars.

Next day, when we started again on the march, With us went Jack, without word or call, Stopping for rest at the order to 'halt,' And taking his rations along with us all: Never straggling, but keeping his place in line, Far to the right, and close beside me; And I don't care where the other is found, There never was better drilled dog than he.

He always went with us into the fight; And the thicker the bullets fell around, And the louder the rattling musketry rolled, Louder and fiercer his bark would sound; And once, when wounded, and left for dead, After a bloody and desperate fight, Poor Jack, as faithful as friend can be, Lay by my side on the field all night.

And so, when our regiment home returned, We brought him along with us, as you see; And Jack and I being much attached, The boys seemed to think he belonged to me; And here he has lived with me ever since; Right pleased with his quarters, too, he seems: There are no more battles for brave old Jack, And no more marches except in dreams.

Now the best of all times for the old dog is When the thunder mutters along the sky: Then he wakes the echoes around with his bark, Thinking the enemy surely is nigh. Now I've told you his history, write him a rhyme, — Some day in his grave poor Jack must rest, — And of all the rhymes of this cruel war Which your brain has made, let this be the best."

FALSE SPORT.

BY REV. HORATIO STEBBINS.

THERE is a kind of pleasure that is called "sport;" and the men who seek it are called *par eminence* "sportsmen." It consists in taking the lives of sentient creatures by strategy for the pleasure of it. I understand the nature of the argument with the "sportsman." It is short and quick. He takes his food from field or flood with his own hand; I buy mine in the shambles, after somebody else has taken it. What is the difference? The difference is this in two points: He does not take his food for a living, and he does not call his pastime getting a living: he calls it "sport;" and he does not call himself a "hunter," but a "sportsman." Now, any man who finds pleasure, "sport," as it is called, the easy-going way of careless fun, in taking the life of animals, I do not say that he is unkind or unjust or undevout even; but I say there is a want of completeness and delicacy in his sensibilities. There is something in him in respect of pleasure like that in the distinguished surgeon in respect of his science, who, when his attention was called to anaesthesia, replied that it could have but little value, as the element of pain was of mediocre importance in surgery. I understand these men, working-men, business-men, gentlemen-at-large, ministers, "sportsmen." But I am unable to discern how the infliction of pain and death on any sentient creature can be called a pleasure where there is a fine principle of sympathy in the mind. Many persons will call to mind the brightness, vivacity, and true sympathy with Nature in all her forms, of the late Thomas Starr King. How charming was his perception of the beauty of the world! The silence and the sounds of Nature, and all her animate and inanimate forms, alike enchanted him. Can anybody conceive that that æsthetic loveliness, that fine sensibility, would have been improved or exalted if he had added to them a delight in killing birds? The very suggestion shocks the sense of moral beauty.

The truth is, all man's necessities of holding inferior creatures under him for service, for food, and for the discovery of Nature's laws, cannot be mixed up or confounded with a want of sensibility, or a want of completeness of sympathy with the world around. — *Animal's Friend*.

THE PROFESSOR AND HIS EELS.

A CERTAIN professor, whose reputation as a collector of cabinet specimens has reached the remotest bounds of the civilized world, while passing through an Eastern town, noticed some fine eels of a very rare species. True to his instinct as a collector, he at once negotiated for the possession of the slippery things, without the question having been raised of the feasibility of carrying them home with him. But the professor was a man fertile in expedients, and, not wishing to be encumbered with a basket, soon had them snugly stowed away in his umbrella, and, as he supposed, safely tied into that unusual receptacle for fish. Stepping into a street-car, the way seemed made so smooth for the securing of his treasure, that the professor sank into a reverie. Doubtless he was striving to make clear in his mind the exact relationship of these same eels to their pre-Adamitic brethren; but, be that as it may, coming back at last to things of the present, he found, to his dismay, that the string had loosened, and the eels disappeared. Knowing so well the restless nature of the animals, the professor stopped at the first crossing, and retreated to the sidewalk; but, being a man for whom the comical side of life has attractions, he kept that car in view, and watched for the denouement. He had not long to wait before the car stopped; and, amid shrieks and cries of "Snakes, snakes!" the occupants of the vehicle, jostling each other in mad confusion, rushed into the street. And, doubtless, to this day, each individual of that frightened group may be known by a chronic habit of casting furtive glances along the floors of cars and omnibuses, mentally repeating, "Snakes, snakes!" while the disappointed professor laughs his jolly laugh, and is comforted for the loss of his eels.

Hearth and Home.

WHAT WE MUST DO.

It was recently said by the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, — a lady as well known for her large-hearted philanthropy and benevolence, as for her wealth, and who adds to her other claims on our respectful admiration a chivalrous loyalty to the cause of dumb animals, and a strong and unflagging interest in the work of the Royal Society, — that a very large proportion of the acts of cruelty which are done is the result of mere *thoughtlessness*; and, no doubt, this, although a poor excuse for the infliction of suffering on the helpless, is, to a great extent, true. But when we hear of such cases as those which are recorded even in this report; or when we find a man, in spite of urgent remonstrances, and to his own personal loss, designedly starving his sheep to death; or when another is convicted of the horrible barbarity of driving a horse, *not his own*, till the creature's hoofs dropped off, and then urging it to continue its terrible journey on its bleeding stumps, — we are forced to the conclusion that utter wickedness and callousness of nature, and guilty passion and rage, and contemptible and inconsiderate selfishness, and intense, calculating avarice, have also, oftentimes, much to do in the production of acts of cruelty, which, from their very atrocity, shock and outrage every sentiment of humanity, and which every man and woman possessing an ordinary human heart must deprecate and deplore.

But we must do more than deplore. We must conscientiously and perseveringly labor to repress and check and prevent. We must put the law in force against these heartless men. We must be loyal to the beneficent principles of the society, some of whose work we put on record to-day. We must stir up interest, and circulate information, by means of such publications — if there be another such — as the society's cheap yet admirable periodical, "The Animal World." We must persistently and lovingly indoctrinate the young with the sentiments and principles of the law of kindness. We must be swift to enforce those sentiments by our own careful and invariable example in tenderly treating, and scrupulously caring for, all dumb creatures; and we must crown all, and give effect to all, with prayer for the divine blessing, and for the wider influence and spread and prevalence of that most holy religion which was begotten of mercy, and whose essence is love. — *Report of the Leeds [England] Society*.

For Our Dumb Animals.

BLUEBIRDS, CEDAR-BIRDS, ROBINS, &c.

BLUEBIRDS.—I have always appreciated the value of insect-eating birds for their usefulness in the garden and field; and have always loved them for their beauty and songs. I have built bird-houses especially for the bluebirds, so that fifty or more have been raised in a season. Later years have brought them nearer to the garden, where they have made a marked change by clearing out the brown or black plant-cutting worm. The more these birds are protected, the less damage is done to our crops.

In the past six years this worst kind of worm has mostly disappeared. The bluebirds are the first to appear in spring, and among the last to go away in autumn.

Having had a pair of young cedar-birds, and a pair of young robins in a cage, and having placed a perch long enough for the parent birds to stand upon outside, to feed them, I have had an opportunity to notice that a great quantity of different insects, injurious to vegetation, were gathered.

ROBINS.—Each day the robin brought more than a gill of copper-headed or corn-cutting worms, wire worms, and the cucumber-plant eaters, grub worms, &c., so common and destructive to field and garden crops.

Allowing another gill to two more young ones, and as much more for the parent-birds, it is easy to estimate the amount a brood of robins will eat during their stay with us. Indeed, they are welcome to all the cherries and berries they eat for their dessert.

Add to this their cheerful songs, which, like all other birds, is principally during their love-making, nest-building, and breeding season.

BOBOLINKS.—The agreeable, social male "bobolink" never sings his familiar songs after the 15th of July, when all their young have been raised, and he begins to change his feathers to a greenish brown and pale yellow like the females and her young.

Now they all begin to talk the same language, and go in flocks to feed, more on small grains, and flax seed; and by the first of September, nearly all have migrated to the South, and feed on small berries and rice. There they are called "rice-birds." In the spring following, before they return, all the males again change their dress.

CEDAR-BIRDS.—These are sometimes called "cherry-birds." They have rightly won that name, by their love for the wild-cherry.

The two young ones in the cage were fed four weeks by the parent-birds, mostly by the mother, and often while I held the cage, many times coming through the open window to the centre of our sitting-room. She fed each one with cherries and worms, every fifteen minutes each day, changing the berry-diet to whortleberries, currants, raspberries, &c.

The worms were those found mostly on apple-trees, such as caterpillars, canker-worms, moths, &c.

Cedar-birds are the prettiest and most valuable birds in the orchard. They rarely light on the ground, like the robin, to obtain their food.

Both these and robins are very domestic in their habits, and belong more to the garden and field than to the woods.

HARDWICK, MASS.

C. R.

We are not "experts" in regard to the habits of birds, and have not, just now, an opportunity to examine authorities. If any of our friends think our new correspondent in error in any of his theories or statements, we shall be glad to hear from them in our next.

ED.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER.

THERE is ten times the satisfaction in the company of animals that there is in that of human beings. 'Tis so easy to render the former happy,—the discontent and suspicion and ambition that disturb mankind seem far from them; and 'tis such a study, so great a mystery, to watch the development of mind and affection in them, under notice and kind treatment! Why, they almost talk!

A. M.

BE not stingy of kind acts; for such are fragrant gifts, whose perfume will gladden the heart and sweeten the life of all who receive them.

"THEY SAY."

THEY say,—ah, well! suppose they do; But can they prove the story true? Suspicion may arise from nought But malice, envy, want of thought. Why count yourself among the "they" Who whisper what they dare not say?

They say—but why the tale rehearse, And help to make the matter worse? No good can possibly accrue From telling what may be untrue; And is it not a nobler plan To speak of all the best you can?

They say—well, if it should be so, Why need you tell the tale of woe? Will it the bitter wrongs redress, Or make one pang of sorrow less? Will it the erring one restore, Henceforth to "go and sin no more"?

AN INTELLIGENT PONY.

BY BEATRICE.

MRS. DANIEL M. MOULTON of Jamaica Plain owns and drives the most intelligent Shetland pony it has ever been our good fortune to see. On entering the barn we were formally introduced to this prince of pets when the following bit of by-play took place between mistress and pony.

"Dick, these ladies do not belong here, put them out!" Dick came stamping toward us with his mane erect, seeming determined to protect his home from invasion.

"That will do; now come back, and show them your pretty face." Dick walked demurely to his mistress' side, turned around, and peeped shyly through his forelocks.

"There is one side of your neck very handsome: show it to the ladies." Turning his head, he exhibited a large, pure-white spot, which he seemed extremely proud of.

"Now, what is mistress proud of when she goes to ride?" Turning completely around, he lashed his long black tail back and forth in a very decided manner.

"Dear me! where's my handkerchief?" down went Dick's nose to her pocket; and, with his teeth, he drew out the missing article, gently placing it in the lady's hand.

"If you would like some oats you must speak for them." A long sharp neigh was his answer, when he was supplied with the article wanted.

"And now," said our hostess, "you must let me drive you up to Dick's birthplace, so you can see how well he remembers his old home."

Dick's sire and dam were imported from Shetland by a lawyer named Austin, from whom his present owner purchased him. As soon as he struck the road, he started into a rapid trot; and it was really amusing to see the little fellow strain and pull, trying to pass every team upon the road.

Of his own accord he turned up the broad carriage-drive leading to his former home, stopped in front of each door, listened, looked up at the windows, vainly trying to see some familiar face; and when at last he reached a level green where a portion of his babyhood had been spent, he looked anxiously over it, neighed long and mournfully, then walked towards the road.

Dick is ten years old, weighs five hundred pounds, is of a dark chestnut color bordering on black, with a black mane, and tail that sweeps the ground, and he knows no more the use of a whip than as though one had never been made.

Happy little Dick! May the loving hearts of those who care for you never stop beating while you live!

WE who are endowed with superior talents ought to feel for the creatures of God, who, if they are not gifted with speech, have, nevertheless, sensitive feelings; and, if they are treated with kindness, how tractable and docile they become!—*Florence Dimmock.*

ANTS AND PLANT-LICE.

OUR friend, E. C. of Cambridge, writes us in regard to a translation from the German, which appeared in our May paper, touching the question, whether ants are injurious to trees. He quotes the following from the "Report on the Insects of Massachusetts," by Dr. T. W. Harris, in regard to plant-lice which live in the ground:—

"These little lice are attended by ants, which generally make their nests near the roots of the plants, so as to have their milch kine, as the plant-lice have been called, within their own habitations."

E. C. adds, "I have frequently watched the ants milking their kine, and feasting upon this sweet fluid."

He quotes again from Dr. Harris's Report:— "We are often apprised of the presence of plant-lice on plants growing in the open air, by the ants ascending and descending the stems."

"By observing the motions of the latter, we soon ascertain that the sweet fluid discharged by the lice is the occasion of these visits."

"The stems swarm with slim and hungry ants running upwards, and others lazily descending, swelled almost to bursting. . . . The lice do not seem in the least annoyed by the ants, but live on the best possible terms with them; and, on the other hand, the ants, though unsparing of other insects weaker than themselves, upon which they frequently prey, treat the plant-lice with the utmost gentleness. . . . When the plant-lice cast their skins, the ants instantly remove the latter, nor will they allow any dirt or rubbish to remain upon or about them. They even protect them from their enemies, and run about them in the hot sunshine to drive away the little ichneumon flies that are forever hovering near."

For Our Dumb Animals.

SEA-ANEMONES.

I AM very much interested in the anecdotes and habits of animals, published in your paper; and, if you can find room for these selections from a reliable source, I think it will be a satisfactory explanation of an article in your August number, about "Animal Flowers" found in a cavern on the Island of St. Luce.

The article referred to says, "Under this flower is the body of an animal," &c. When expanded, it certainly resembles an exquisite flower. I have seen it of the most beautiful hues of crimson and orange, and fed it with tiny bits of meat, and have looked with wonder to see the tentacles slowly draw them in.

Mrs. L. Agassiz, in "A First Lesson in Natural History," published in 1859, gives a charming description of this sea-anemone, which is not a flower, but an animal:—

"At first, this sea-anemone looks like a brown, soft lump; then he slowly expands, the soft ball rises gradually. From its summit it puts out long and graceful feelers, like fringes, forming a sort of wreath around the top; attached to them is an instrument dangerous and deadly to all the little animals which the sea-anemone likes for its food."

"On these fringes, or tentacles, are a number of lasso-cells. Each cell contains a long, hollow thread coiled up in a spiral within it. They fling these out, and entangle shrimps, or shells, in their tiny cords, as flies are caught in a spider's web."

"Then the tentacles close upon it, and pass it into the mouth, then into its stomach, or sac."

This sac makes a cavity in the middle of the body, and is divided by a number of partitions, running from top to bottom, radiating from this central sac to the outside. The sac opens by an aperture in the bottom into the main body. The food passes from the stomach into the body, circulating through all the partitions, passing from them into the tentacles; and thus the whole body is nourished by whatever enters its mouth."

E. C.

CAMBRIDGE, August, 1873.

Our Dumb Animals.

Boston, October, 1873.

CATTLE TRANSPORTATION.

IN States where there is no special law protecting animals from cruelty on railroads and vessels, we trust our friends will bear in mind that the *national law, passed last winter, went into operation Oct. 1.* It appeared in full in our April paper. It provides that animals shall not be confined more than twenty-eight consecutive hours on cars or vessels, under a penalty of one hundred to five hundred dollars. Prosecutions to be entered at United States Circuit or District Court. If animals are carried on cars or boats where they have proper food, water, space, and opportunity for rest, the law does not apply.

Bear in mind, that the time during which animals have been confined on connecting roads shall be included. Some corporations have supposed that only when the confinement exceeded twenty-eight hours on their road, were they liable; but they will find that the law requires them, when they receive stock from another road, to ascertain how long they have already been confined, or render themselves liable.

The time has now come when all the societies in the country, and all friends of animals, can unite and act under one law, and see to its enforcement. Every consideration of humanity demands this action; and the sanitary questions involved come in to encourage it.

Copies of the law can be had on application at our office.

A HUMANE PRESIDENT AT A HORSE RACE.

IN the course of the race at the fair at Concord, 24th ult., Mr John Cummings, President of the Middlesex County Agricultural Society, entered the judges' stand, and protested against the driving of horses under the lash, as was done by the driver of "Dictator." This created quite a commotion; the owner of the horse insisting that the president had no right to interfere. The latter insisted, and declared that the rules of the Society should be so modified as to prevent a repetition of such unwarrantable treatment of the horse. — *Boston Journal.*

Thanks for this interference!

We wish all managers of Agricultural Fairs would be as thoughtful.

At most races, we think, there is but little whipping, and believe the rules of some Trotting Associations forbid it; but we fear, that at some irregular races it is practised. Our agents are requested to be present, and interfere and prosecute if necessary.

We do not sympathize with the practice of racing, and have no doubt the horses often suffer. It is difficult to prove injury to the horse by his subsequent condition; but we shall prosecute when sufficient evidence can be obtained.

In the mean time, we hope public sentiment will so change, that it will seem of but little importance whether "Chain Lightning" or "Electric Spark" is the fastest horse, or whether either trots a mile in 2.50 or 2.19½!

THE Royal Society of London has now a funded property of £34,000, including a recent bequest of £10,000 from Mr. T. Holmes. The expenditures of the Society last year were over £9,000; but the receipts exceeded that amount, — greater than the receipts of all the societies in the United States combined, if we except the bequest of Mr. Bonard to the New York Society.

The prosecutions of the Royal Society, last year, resulted in over fifteen hundred convictions.

OUR PRIZES FOR HUMANE INVENTIONS.

N. E. AGRICULTURAL FAIR, SEPT. 1873.

THE committee appointed to examine goods entered in the interests of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, consisting of Dr. Loring, Hon. Daniel Needham, and Fred L. Atwood, award the following premiums: —

To W. F. Boyd, Mansfield, Mass., for two light bridles, with Boyd's patent winkers, \$25.00; also for two pairs of bits, \$25.00.

To Joseph Cogan, Boston, for improved horse-collar, \$25.00.

To G. A. Parker, Westport, Mass., for patent horse-racket, \$25.00.

To Zinc Collar-pad Company, Buchanan, Mich., for Curtis's Zinc Collar-pad, \$25.00.

To W. J. H. Kappe, Quincy, Ill., for patent folding poultry-coop, \$25.00.

To E. C. Gordon, Salem, N.H., for patent duplex whiffletree, \$25.00.

To J. Johnson, Lowell, Mass., for pads for horses' feet, deemed of great value by the committee, a gratuity of \$25.00.

To H. A. Hall, Boston, Mass., for patent India-rubber guards, to prevent close travelling horses interfering, \$25.00.

To Holden Brothers, Boston, a gratuity of \$25.00 for Lawton's Improvement in Harness or Draught Attachment.

Of the nine prizes offered, but five were competed for, the other awards being gratuities, at the discretion of the committee, for articles especially commendable. There were about twenty-five exhibitors in all at our table. Among the articles not mentioned above were horse boots, shoes, and rackets, brush, and curry-comb, bird-box, &c. This "humane department," we are glad to say, seemed to present as many attractions, and have as many visitors, as any other at the fair.

Our offer, the exhibition, and the award, will tend to awaken increased attention to the subject, and induce others, not only to see the effort making to alleviate and lessen the suffering of animals, but to make further attempts to improve harnesses, transportation, &c.

This is our object; and we are gratified, so far, at the success of our undertaking.

REPAIR YOUR BARN.

Now is the time to make repairs on your barn and sheds, to assure proper protection for your stock.

Will our agents look about their several towns, and kindly "notify and warn" those who have neglected this duty?

DRY YARDS. — How many barn-yards there are in which there is not a dry spot large enough for the cattle to lie down upon, where the mire and muck are so deep that the cattle sink in over their hoofs!

Swine, too, need a dry place in their yard, and a warm shelter at night. We have sometimes found them frozen to death, they were so unprotected. The "fines and costs" were more than their expense of repairing would have been.

Poultry, also, require warm quarters, and do not always get them.

Every time a man shivers this winter let him ask himself whether his animals are having the same experience!

CORRECTION.

A WORCESTER paper, in announcing a meeting in that city recently, states that "Mr. Loring Moody is secretary of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals." This is an error. Mr. Moody has no connection with this society, but is secretary of the "Mission for Animals," — a separate organization.

As a similar misunderstanding has frequently occurred before, it is due to Mr. Moody and ourselves that the correction be made.

TO OUR AGENTS.

Frequent application is made to us to indorse certain remedies for the diseases of animals, but we uniformly decline. We do not claim to be veterinary surgeons or chemists, and are not willing to give an official approval to any special remedy, or to one method of practice over another. Our agents are requested to adopt the same custom, and to decline to give their names, as our agents, in favor of any of these medicines. We encourage the use of any thing that relieves the suffering of animals; but we prefer that the manufacturers of these articles should rely upon other testimony than ours. This course will avoid unpleasant controversies with rival manufacturers.

HUNTING-MATCHES.

THIS is the month for "hunting-matches" in this State, when one or two hundred men start out on a given day to see how many small animals, such as chipmunks, red squirrels, woodpeckers, &c., they can kill in a day. Last year we recorded one "hunt," where nearly twenty thousand of these animals were killed in one small town in this State in one day.

We presume this is called "sport."

Let us hope that advancing civilization will stop this practice this year. "Game birds" may be killed at certain seasons of the year; but the law forbids killing any other undomesticated bird (except crows and crow-blackbirds) at any season. Let the law be enforced.

DEATH FROM A GLANDERED HORSE. — A glandered horse belonging to Roswell C. Miner of Steuben, N.Y., in blowing from his nostrils, discharged a portion of the poisonous mucus, a drop of which entered one of Mr. Miner's eyes. He immediately wiped it out, as he supposed; but within twenty-four hours his eye was much swollen, attended with great pain. Medical aid was procured, and his case pronounced a hopeless one. The virus matter had so permeated his system, that his recovery was pronounced impossible. His flesh turned purple, and was thoroughly impregnated with the poison. He lingered in agony about twenty days, and died a most wretched death. His friends were compelled to bury him immediately, and with him the entire bed and bedding on which he had lain.

Instances of human death from contact with glandered horses are by no means uncommon; and the owners of glandered horses should be compelled by law, under heavy penalties, to destroy them immediately upon the discovery of the disease. — *Turf, Field, and Farm.*

[And yet there are glandered horses constantly used in this State. We are doing our best to have the horses killed, as it is cruel to use them; and we prosecute the owners. — *Ed.*]

NEW HARNESS FOR OXEN.

We are glad to see the effort made by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals to improve the style of harness for the horse and the ox. We have always thought there was an imperative demand for some easier mode of enabling the ox to throw his strength into his work than the old and clumsy yoke. It is heavy and cumbersome, and not particularly well adapted to enable the animal to exert his strength to advantage, while its application often seems to amount to positive cruelty.

The only substitute that we have seen tried is a simple arrangement by which the animal pushed the load by a simple contrivance passing around the forehead below the horns. But other styles of harness have been suggested, and it is a matter of duty to experiment and find out the best. — *Ploughman.*

OUR cuts in August paper have excited much interest, and we hope it will result in the trial of some kind of a harness.

For Our Dumb Animals.

CRUELTY TO THE DISABLED.

Your paper brings to my remembrance a "sin of ignorance," which I once committed.

During the Kansas imbroglia, I spent a winter on the prairie in a rude shanty; and one morning, going out to the shed, I found an ox lying there, groaning, emaciated, and shivering. I did not know enough to kill him; and so he lingered on several days, till, between the cold and hunger, he died. We had no feed for him nor comfortable shelter.

He had labored faithfully in the great caravan of teams which then crossed the Plains (and do still in some directions); and, when old and unable longer to labor, he was abandoned by his cruel owners, to perish of starvation. My camp was about a mile from their trail, and he had staggered behind my shed for shelter.

That trail could be traced for hundreds of miles by the bones of oxen which had been turned out to die, and been devoured by the iotas.

I hope such practices are abandoned now, or that those who live on the prairies, will know enough to put a speedy end to their sufferings. J. U. P.

* Coyotes?

THE BUTCHERS' COMPLAINT.

DROVERS CRAMMING CATTLE.

To the Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

GENTLEMEN, — Allow us, as the representatives of our occupation (the butchers), to call your attention to a grievance which has long existed at the stock-yards in West Philadelphia, and which is enacted whenever stock is delivered there to be sold, namely, the practice of cramming or stuffing them as we style it; which practice must, sooner or later, be abated. The majority of the stock is delivered at the yard on Friday night or Saturday morning, when we (the butchers) are at market, it being our best day in the week. The stock so delivered, being on the cars without food or water, are, in fact, very hungry and thirsty. These speculators (we cannot call them drovers) will not sell the butchers the stock as it comes from the cars, and let us feed it; but they (the speculators) feed them with hay, sometimes with salted corn, and whatever they can cram into them, as also large quantities of salt, to create thirst so that they may drink large quantities of water when driven into what is called water-lots, so that they may weigh heavier. Sheep so salted and fed will drink three gallons of water. Cattle will empty a washtub of water, drink until they almost burst, and we are compelled to pay for this mixture, which is unnecessarily crammed into them, and which is all loss to us, and which is most injurious to the animal, and deteriorates from the flavor of the meat, as animals so stuffed or crammed become feverish and exhausted, and during the warm summer months causes many of them to die while being driven to our slaughter-houses. We have seen sheep stuffed and crammed so much that they have actually thrown it up along the street, in the pens, &c. Further, we are compelled to buy all stock live weight, paying for all the animals weigh, sheep and cattle, in bulk; and we are fortunate if we have in meat in weight. When dressed for market, one-half of what the animals weighed when alive, when we should always have over weight instead of the falling off in weight, which is all through the cruel practice of cramming and stuffing. Indeed, gentlemen, our business is becoming a failure, being at the mercy of these speculators, who live by working about one or two days in the week, and devoting the rest of their time to superintending the cramming of animals for the next cattle-market day. Gentlemen, we know that your honorable and beneficial body will take the matter in hand, and assist us in remedying the evil complained of, and investigate it for yourselves, and see that it is just as here stated.

We would earnestly ask you to call a special meeting of your society, extending an invitation to the butchers, to remedy the foregoing evil.

Yours, most respectfully,

MANY BUTCHERS.

ONTARIO (CANADA) SOCIETY.

ORGANIZED JULY 3, 1873.

Office, Shaftesbury Hall, Toronto.

PATRONS.

His EXCELLENCY EARL DUFFERIN, K.C.B.,
GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF CANADA.

His EXCELLENCY W. P. HOWLAND, Esq.,
LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF ONTARIO.

President. — Prof. Daniel Wilson, LL.D.

Vice-Presidents. — Hon. G. W. Allan, Goldwin Smith, M.A.

Executive Committee. — Rev. John McCaul, D.D.; Robert Wilkes, M.P.; John Macdonald; W. Canniff, M.D.; T. W. Fisher; W. T. Kiely; George Goulding; W. Oldright, M.D.; S. R. Briggs; C. H. Wallis; A. T. McCord (Chamberlain); J. A. Boyd; Rev. E. Ryerson, D.D.; James Chapman; Josias Bray; A. Smith, V.S.; J. B. Boustead; R. Awde; H. L. Hime (Ald.); W. J. Bird; W. P. Crombie.

Honorable Treasurer. — G. H. Wilson.

Honorable Secretary. — Thomas Elgar.

Agent and Inspector. — John Harcourt.

This new society has taken hold of the work in earnest, and seems to promise to imitate the activity of its sister societies in Canada.

The following circular, written by Prof. Goldwin Smith of that society, so well expresses the purposes and methods of kindred societies, that we republish it: —

"The Council of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals takes the earliest opportunity of acquainting the public with the objects of the society, and its proposed plan of operations.

"The object of the society is to protect helpless animals from the cruelty of men, and men themselves from the brutalizing effects of cruelty to animals; to put a stop to the barbarities practised in bringing beasts to market, which, according to the testimony of some of our leading butchers, not only inflict agony on the beasts, but affect public health by impairing the quality of the meat; to cruel modes of slaughtering; to overdriving, overloading, savage whipping and working, old or broken-down horses, or horses with diseased feet or sore shoulders; to savage sports, such as dog-fighting and cock-fighting, which are still carried on among us. By such practices habits of cruelty are formed which pervade the whole character, and often break forth, it may be presumed, in the domestic tyranny and inhumanity, instances of which we have so often to deplore. People of common sensibility are pained and sickened, and children cannot fail to be depraved, by the brutalities which are too often witnessed in our streets.

"The society proposes, in the first place, to ascertain the existing law, to bring about such extensions or improvements of it as may be found requisite, and to make it known by means of placards in markets and elsewhere. At the same time, efforts will be made to induce railway and other companies to frame better regulations for the treatment and conveyance of animals, against over-crowding them in cars, or leaving them without food or water. In the last resort, the society will undertake the duty of preventing the law from becoming a dead letter, by bringing wilful and flagrant offences against it under the cognizance of public justice.

"Aware that cruelty often springs from mere thoughtlessness or callousness, rather than from malignity of disposition, the society will avail itself of all means of diffusing better sentiments on the subject; especially will it endeavor to enlist the aid of the pulpit and the press. . . .

"The society earnestly invites the co-operation of all who may have the opportunity of assisting it in the promotion of an object which must commend itself to every humane and Christian community, and the usefulness of which has been attested by the success of similar societies elsewhere, as well as by the good that has already resulted from the establishment of the present association. If the means adopted for the attainment of the object meet with public approbation, it is hoped that the moderate amount of pecuniary support required to enable the society to proceed with its work will not be withheld."

CASES INVESTIGATED

BY BOSTON AGENTS IN SEPTEMBER.

Whole number of complaints 59; viz., for beating 9; driving when lame and galled 17, overloading 3, overdriving 9, driving when diseased 3, failing to provide proper food 1, torturing 2, abandoning 2, defective streets 1, general cruelty 14. Remedied without prosecution 33, not substantiated 10, under investigation 7, prosecuted 7, convicted 6. Animals killed 17, temporarily taken from work, 21.

FINES.

From Justices' Courts, — Westford (2 cases), \$25; Woburn, \$10; Clinton, \$10; Brighton (3 cases), \$37. From District Courts, — Central Berkshire (3 cases), \$12. From Police Courts, — Lynn, \$20; Somerville (3 cases), \$55. From Municipal Court, — Boston (3 cases), \$80. From Witness Fees, — \$4.80.

RECEIPTS BY THE SOCIETY LAST MONTH.

[All sums of money received by the Society during the past month appear in this column, with the names, so far as known, of the person giving or paying the same. If remittances or payments to us or our agents are not acknowledged in this column, parties will please notify the secretary at once; in which case, they will be acknowledged in the next paper. Donors are requested to send names or initials with their donations.]

DONORS.

Robert Brewin, \$11.15; Misses Codman, \$4.00; Miss A. M. Cary, 1.00; Anonymous, 1.00.

SUBSCRIBERS ONE DOLLAR EACH.

Allice C. Leonard, Frank Pierce, J. A. Bacon, A. B. Rogers, Dr. L. R. Stone, George Smith, Dr. H. M. Field, Rufus Warren, W. F. Ross, M. L. Card, Joseph Grinnell, James A. Treat, Norcross, Mellen, & Co., Mrs. R. F. Bond, De L. Crittenden, Gilman, Cheney, & Co., Joseph Ryder, Edward L. Tead, E. Hixon & Co., Dr. A. C. Webber, James H. Eaton, Charles B. Adams, W. F. Eustis, Mrs. Josiah Vose, David Wood, Mary L. Keith, Susan W. Webb, Mrs. J. H. Whitman, Robert Brewin (Subscription and Postage), \$50; Samuel Webb, Charles F. Stackpole, C. C. French, Miss A. M. Armory, S. S. Wetmore, Gorham Blake, John Osborn, Miss L. F. Kelly, Dr. Lincoln, Anne W. Abbott, Almhouse — N. C., Mary Parker, H. Wellington & Co., Dr. G. W. Tinkham, Misses Codman, Frances H. Bradburn, Mrs. Nicholson, Stephen E. Keeler, George W. King, Sherman & Reynard, Ebenezer Crane, Samuel Bliss, John A. Hawes, C. F. Paule, Miss A. M. Cary, Martha Winder, Mrs. H. S. Wyman, Sally Hayward, Miss Bryan, Miss Daniel.

For Our Dumb Animals.

UNIFORM GAUGE FOR CARRIAGE-WHEELS.

It has often occurred to me, that the work of our noble helper, the horse, could be made easier by a uniform width of track or gauge of carriages, which differ so much in different parts of this and other New-England States. For instance, at and east of Worcester, the track is wide; while west of Worcester, it is narrow, thereby, where there are ruts in the roads, making a carriage much harder to draw. Why cannot a uniform width of track be recommended and arranged by carriage-builders, or those who are best able to judge of the merits of the question? I should be happy to hear from others on this subject, and see what, if any thing, can be done.

DRIVER.

THE DOGS ON THE POLARIS.

CHRISTMAS DAY was a gala-day on board "The Polaris." The good ship was hemmed in by heavy field ice; but the weather was as pleasant as an Italian spring day. The Esquimaux, and the dogs which Capt. Hall procured at St. Johns, were brought into requisition, and a seal-hunt was proposed as the object of the day. The dogs were lowered to the ice in a boat from the davits, and were tackled to low sledges by the Esquimaux. Capt. Hall says that the sagacity and tractableness of these animals were remarkable. After half an hour's stretch gallop over the heavy ice, the panting dogs suddenly drew up, and yelled, and pawed the surface. One of the Esquimaux — the oldest of the lot — at once interpreted the warning of the dogs and, quick as lightning, he bounded from his seat, and turned the dogs' heads towards the ship. In half the time it took to reach the distance they had travelled from "The Polaris," the eager dogs pulled up beside the hull. Around the horizon then there were murky clouds assembling, and the atmosphere felt misty and bleak. Within an hour after the barking of the sagacious animals, the ice had been broken up; and "The Polaris" was separated from it by a stormy channel nearly half a mile in width. Had the seal-hunting party fulfilled their intention of urging on the dogs, and keeping up the sport until moonlight, few of them would have survived the excursion. — *New York Times.*

Children's
Department.

PUSSY'S "GOOD-MORNING."

WHAT a hearty, affectionate "good-morning" it is too! Puss bounded out of her warm bed; and her first thought was of her good friend in the stable. So, before he could have a chance to take a bite of his breakfast, puss's soft head was rubbing against his nose; and her loud "purr-purr-purr" was saying to him — well, what does a cheery "good-morning" from some one you love very much say to you, little friends? Doesn't there come to you through the words the brightness and pleasantness, the love and good wishes, which are in the heart of father or mother, and which the new day but brings out fresher and stronger? Don't you think that puss and her friend get at least a little glimpse of some meaning like this? What a loving look is in the face of the horse! He seems to forget his breakfast, while puss may be telling him (who knows?) what a pleasant morning it is outside, and yet that she would rather stay inside with him. Perhaps she can't tell him the real reason; but you know that it is because sunshine *inside*, in ourselves, is better than the glad brightness of the outside world. And companionship gives us this sunshine, whether it is with animals or with our friends.

THE SQUIRREL.

"The squirrel is happy, the squirrel is gay,"
Said Harry one day to his brother:
"He has nothing to do or to think of but play,
And to jump from one tree to another."

But William was older and wiser: he knew
That all play and no work would not answer;
So he asked what in winter the squirrel would do,
If he passed all the summer a dancer?

"The squirrel, dear Harry, is merry and wise;
For true wisdom and mirth go together:
So he gathers in summer his winter-supplies,
And then he don't mind the cold weather."

CONSTANCY is a reasonable firmness in our sentiments; stubbornness, an unreasonable firmness.

Pussy's Good Morning.



"LET'S QUARREL."

In the depths of a forest there lived two foxes who never had a cross word with each other. One of them said one day, in the politest fox language, "Let's quarrel."

"Very well," said the other, "as you please, dear friend; but how shall we set about it?"

"Oh, it cannot be difficult!" said fox number one. "Two-legged people fall out: why should not we?" So they tried all sorts of ways; but it could not be done, because each would give way. At last number one fetched two stones.

"There!" said he: "you say they're yours, and I'll say they're mine; and we will quarrel and fight and scratch. Now I'll begin. Those stones are mine!"

"Very well," answered the other gently, "you are welcome to them."

"But we shall never quarrel at this rate," cried the other, jumping up and licking his face. "You old simpleton, don't you know that it takes two to make a quarrel any day?" — *Children's Hour.*

In Louisville, some kindly-disposed people buy nuts, and scatter them in the park for the squirrels; and it has been discovered that the tiny quadrupeds are regularly robbed by boys.

A LITTLE GIRL'S
STORIES.

"OLD ZACK, my brother John's dog, was a large watchdog, partly mastiff, partly bull-dog. One day a large stray dog walked slowly up the avenue. Zack came out of his kennel, showed the stranger in, brought him a bone, and gave him of his food for two days, sleeping outside near by; and, when the stranger was well recruited, he walked down to the gate with him, and showed him out."

"Basker, Stella's dog, came up to mother's, and, looking up and around the room, began to growl in a threatening manner, fixing his eyes on the portrait of my father. He soon jumped up on the sofa which stood under the picture, and, looking attentively at it, seemed to be satisfied that it was not a man: he then lay quietly down, and never again greeted the picture in that manner."

"Beauty, a black-and-tan terrier, being reproved for barking in the cellar, and told sharply there were no rats there, kept up his watch, and in the course of an hour caught a large rat, which he insisted resolutely upon taking up stairs, and laid down triumphantly before his mistress." — *Our Young Folks.*

I'LL RUN FOR HIM.

A FEW days ago, I was passing through a pretty shady street, where some boys were playing at base ball. Among their numbers was a little lame fellow, seemingly about twelve years old, — a pale, sickly-looking child, supported on two crutches, and who evidently found much difficulty in walking, even with such assistance.

The lame boy wished to join the game; for he did not seem to see how much his infirmity would be in his own way, and how much it would hinder the progress of such an active sport as base ball.

His companions, good-naturedly enough, tried to persuade him to stand one side and let another take his place; and I was glad to notice that none of them hinted that he would be in the way; but they all objected for fear he would hurt himself.

"Why, Jimmy," said one at last, "you can't run, you know."

"Oh, hush!" said another, the tallest boy in the party. "Never mind, I'll run for him, and you can count it for him;" and he took his place by Jimmy's side, prepared to act. "If you were like him," he said aside to the other boys, "you wouldn't want to be told of it all the time." — *Child's World.*

WITHOUT content we shall find it almost as difficult to please others as ourselves.

EXTRACTS FROM PRIZE COMPOSITIONS.

SUBJECT:—WHY SHOULD ANIMALS BE KINDLY TREATED.
Concluded.

One of the most prominent reasons to my mind for treating these dumb animals kindly is, they have no power of self-defence, no voice to raise, pleading their own cause; their master must be judge and jury, and they must stand in mute agony, and allow him to vent his wrath upon their shrinking and shivering forms. — A. W. S.

They should be treated kindly at all times, because they cannot convey to us their difficulties, and because they do our work, and carry us on our pleasant trips, and save us a great many steps. — F. A. B.

I think the practice of hunting in which our neighbors across the water indulge, and call it an innocent recreation, is hardly consistent with their proceedings, when they refuse to allow a butcher to serve as juryman, in case of life and death, because his sensibilities are blunted by the duties of his occupation. — A. R.

When man does not use animals kindly, he is not their superior. — L. C.

How much we hear about cruelty to animals, and how much we see it practised; but do we ever try to prevent it? — L. H. K.

In creating them our servants, God deprived them of equal mental power with us, that they might not know their pitiful position. — M. O'N.

We who have pleasant homes, and every thing for our comfort, — for which we are greatly indebted to the animal kingdom, — think too little of the ill-treatment they receive. — L. G. W.

What friend could be more useful to man than are horses, cows, oxen, dogs, and other domestic animals? If we would treat a human friend kindly, one who could look out for himself and resent ill-treatment, why should we not treat animals that cannot help themselves, kindly? — S. E. H.

Strong men, who walk the earth with head erect, apparently impervious to all human ills, when stricken with a tooth-ache, creep groaning into the dentist's chair, and beg for something to cheat the poor sensitive nerves during the terrible operation of having a molar extracted. This brave man, at the dentist's door, jumps into his carriage, and on the way home, gives his horse a succession of cuts with his whip, which thrill every nerve of the poor animal's body, causing the most exquisite pain. — N. C. F.

The man who yields to anger, and seeks to appease his disturbed temper by inflicting upon his horse, or other domestic animal, an unmerited punishment, is injuring himself in a great degree. Such a man will, in a short time, become morally depraved, and incapable of rendering any true sympathy for man or beast. It will destroy those beautiful traits of character that make a man manly, and should be the distinctive marks of his affinity with God, as a son of the Most High. — E. C. W.

I think there has no law ever been passed, more just, more humane, in so many respects, as that for the prevention of cruelty to animals. — L. M. M.

Look at the horse, that much-enduring and noble animal! look at that intelligent head, with its large, clear, kind eyes, and then inquire, *Why he should be kindly treated.* The question is, Why shouldn't he be? What has he done to deserve blows and stripes? — J. M. G.

Can there be a prettier sight than a cow and a flock of fat cossets at her side? The cow so happy, contented, and satisfied, chewing her cud, while her large soft eyes look out so happy on the world; and the cossets and pretty lambs frisking and playing so merrily, making such a picture as no artist's pencil can faithfully portray. Ought not the sight of such innocent happiness to make you more than ever ready and willing to make them thus contented? — W. R. G.

Some have their pet cats, others their dogs, and they would not think of abusing them. But, if any other cat or dog should come in their way, it would be, "Get out of the way!" and perhaps this would be accompanied with a blow or a kick. Why is not that dog or cat as good as our pet? — S. E. S.

We boys should not rob or destroy the birds' nests, hurt the kitten, or even torment a fly needlessly; or we shall take the places of cruel men. — C. R.

... The fact that they are brute, and we are human, so far from releasing us from the obligation, rather renders it doubly binding; for, in our intercourse with men, we are only dealing with those on a plane with ourselves: like ourselves endowed with reason and understanding, and like ourselves free to follow their own inclinations. But in our treatment of animals, we are dealing with those who were made, and must ever remain, slaves to our service, yet sensible of injury, and the more deserving of our kindest attention because dependent upon us, and devoid of reason. — C. S. F.

God gave us animals for our comfort and support; and they are a great blessing to us. It "pays" to keep them well; and they love their keeper for his kindness, will follow him and obey his commands, will thrive and be a pleasure to him. — F. K. A.

If a lad makes a mistake, when he first goes to school, the master does not punish him for it, but kindly shows him how to guard against it the next time. So kindness is good for animals. — H. D. C.

It is no uncommon thing to see men beating cattle unmercifully, until the poor beast look as if they did not know what was wanted of them, whereas, if they were coaxed, they would understand, and would do what was required of them. — M. W. S.

... There is another thing I don't like in the least, — the continual jerking of the reins with the left hand. The old gentlemen around our town do it a great deal. It may be the motion of the horse's head, that makes the hand shake; but I know that they always begin to jerk the horse before they start, and I do pity the horse. — L. R. C.

Nearly every bad habit of an animal may be traced to some misusage; for they will love to obey a master who treats them well. — F. A. G.

It is a pleasure to have the love of an animal, as they have so many ways of showing it; and I think it is a pleasure to be kind to them, too. — A. F. C.

A young man is often urged before taking the fatal step in matrimony, to bring his intended under the kitchen-test, that is, to "catch" her before the toilet for the day is made, and while surrounded by the younger children or servants, and to mark the temper in which she meets their wants and demands. Very good. No objection. Now, let me advise the girls, to notice the way in which a young man uses the horse he is driving, or the dog which follows him, or any other animal that comes in his path. — B. H.

We must remember that every thing that has life is doomed to suffer and to feel, though its expression of pain may not be conveyed to our ears. The most worthless reptile has some claims upon our pity. — A. E. N.

Nothing reveals a man's true character so well as the way he uses his animals. — M. L. F.

The power of kindness has the same effect on animals as upon man. Who is there, that, kindly treated, does not remember it? and will he not show his gratitude either by word or deed? — F. P. M.

... We become so accustomed to using them roughly that we do not consider, many times, that we are abusing the creature. — A. L. R.

The man who is always abusing his animals cannot reasonably expect that they will come readily at his call. — F. L. P.

Even the wild Arab is kind to his horse; certainly we should not be behind him in affection for so useful a creature. — M. S. M.

If they could speak when they are abused, it would not be so hard for them to bear. — S. A. G.

Suppose an animal injures another of its species from anger: we feel nothing like moral disapprobation. We have pity for it, and try to do what we can to avoid another such occurrence. We never feel that a brute is degraded or disgraced by such an act, for we know he has obeyed the highest impulse of his nature. But, supposing a man to act thus, we cannot help feeling that he throws away his reason, his sense of justice, and his humanity. — E. F. S.

God bless any and every person who strives for the protection and well-being of the brute creation; and may his refining influence so affect the hearts of men, that not by compulsion, but by their own kind feelings, they will be prompted to treat all animals kindly! — A. I. M.

A bee among the flowers in spring is one of the most cheerful objects: its life appears all enjoyment. Do not kill it: it is working for you. Its industry is an example to us all. — A. T. H.

There is no reason for thinking that the smaller animals have no nerve, and consequently do not feel and suffer as man does. On the contrary, there are many and good reasons for believing that they have feeling, if, perhaps, in not so fine and delicate a sense as we have it, certainly enough to allow them to feel acutely the tortures that they are subject to from the hand of man. — B. P.

To be cruel to the smallest insect shows a vicious character. — G. M. B.

They are completely under our control, and perfectly helpless. — A. T.

It is also a duty we owe our Maker, that we contribute, by kindness and care, to the usefulness and happiness of his creatures; that we may assist in carrying out the plan for which they were created; that all beings should be useful to one another; that we should not live for ourselves alone, but for the good of all. — E. W. B.

They are dumb creatures, and cannot tell how much they suffer; neither have they the power to stop us from harming them. — G. F.

An animal that is kindly treated does not forget it, neither does an animal that is abused. — F. G. F.

"A person was once watching the building of a house; and, among the many teams which were constantly coming and going, he saw a load of marble drawn by one old horse. The driver was a big, burly teamster. The person expected to hear some yelling and swearing, but he felt as if he ought to ask the driver's pardon; for, instead of doing as he expected, he got down from his seat, stepped quietly to the horse's head, and took the long bony nose in both his hands and rubbed it well; then patted the creature's neck, then rubbed his nose again, and went about his work. And," said he, "that rough giant of a teamster, in his dusty old clothes, became charming to me from that moment." — E. S. E.

... We have seen what friends all the animals are to us, and we ought to be kind to them; and that is one of the first great reasons why animals should be kindly treated. — A. C. R.

Cruel dispositions show themselves in children in a desire to torment cats and dogs, until poor Rover sneaks about in a pitiful manner; and pussy, instead of leaping along in her graceful way, drags her body along, crouching under every chair in deadly fear of her tormentor. And yet some parents seem to regard this trait as smart! — J. W. V.

I once lived by a ferry where the caravans often crossed. A large elephant once attempted to go on the boat; but when he stepped his foot on it, the boat wavered, and no persuasion or force could induce him to try it again. — A. A. U.

Eight reasons: — 1. Because they cannot speak and tell their woes. 2. Because they thrive better. 3. Because they are gentler. 4. Because they are more profitable. 5. More useful. 6. Not so liable to get sick. 7. Because they are worthy of any man's care. 8. Because it is an honor to any man to be kind and gentle to his animals. — A. J. T.

Stable and Farm.

NEGLECT OF ANIMALS IN AUTUMN.

If animals were endowed with speech, they would often remonstrate with their owners about the neglect and carelessness with which they are occasionally treated. And though they cannot speak, yet they have a certain mute eloquence in their look, and tell their tale with a force and point that are often more effectual than words. Very often the rough, shaggy, staring coat, the prominent ribs, drooping head, woe-begone countenance, and appealing eye, tell a tale as plainly as if it were in print. It tells of hard work, poor feed, exposure to storm and tempest and keenly-biting winds. And yet there may be a tight, snug barn, and stacks of fodder still remaining in the field; while from very thoughtlessness the poor old faithful servant, who has ploughed his master's fields year by year, is permitted to remain in an airy yard or in a barren pasture with half-filled belly, and sniff with impatient appetite at the fodder just beyond his reach across the fence. Some farmers seem to think that the fresh air of our October nights, and an occasional wetting with the cold fall rains, are good for the health of their horses, colts, cows, or calves, and make them hardy and vigorous; but this is all wrong. It is unprofitable as well as cruel. Animals exposed to the cold until they are chilled are stunted in their growth, and gather the seeds of future disease. Warmth saves feed; cold wastes feed. Stock well housed keep in better condition on less food than those left out doors in rail pens, damp yards, or exposed pastures. At this season, no stock should be kept out at night nor on stormy days; for the abrupt change from warm sunny days to cold storms of rain and sleet is too great a shock. Pine boards are, in a sense, excellent fodder, and a dry bed of straw the best nutriment. Farmers who consult the comfort of their stock, and their own profit, will see to it that their stables and sheds are put in good order, loose boards nailed or, doors and roofs made tight, good dry straw furnished for bedding, and that their cattle are comfortably sheltered, before the cold winds begin to blow and the first snow of the season flies. — American Agriculturist.

For Our Dumb Animals.

COLD BARN AND OTHER CRUELITIES.

SPEAKING of men's duty to make warm barns, your paper reminded me of my "travail of spirit," over the miserable shelter too commonly afforded, even in New England, where they pride themselves on housing their cattle.

I've heard a farmer say, "My cattle are always kept warm. I couldn't sleep myself, if I thought they were not comfortable," when I knew that his barn was full of cracks that let in all the winds, and when I had seen the poor things shaking from head to foot with the cold. Men, even good, and, in the main, kind-hearted men, don't know what "comfortable" means, as applied to their horses and cattle. If they were shut in stalls in a barn whistling with wind, thermometer below zero, and not even a blanket over them, they would not call it comfortable.

Ridiculed and persecuted for my pity and love for the dumb creation, I have never wavered from the faith that the God who did not think it beneath him to make them did not think their welfare too small a thing to be carefully regarded; and, to save my life, I cannot resist a creeping repugnance to the person who willingly, and for no better reason than to save feeding it, kills even a cat. I know a woman who cannot endure to have cats and dogs fed at anybody's expense. She will take your cat, in your own house, and hold it under water, in her hand, until it is dead. Would you trust such a woman far?

... Those that are truly the friend of the silent and helpless beasts can be no less to their human fellows. Commend me to one who will never wrong a creature that cannot betray him. A. M.

"KINDNESS to animals is one of the especial traits of a good man's character, as it betokens merciful feelings within, although sometimes united with a rough exterior."

CLEVELAND.

Two cases recently prosecuted by D. L. Wightman, agent of the Cleveland Society, are thus described in "The Herald":—

Two mules belonging to John Kennedy were worked with their necks and shoulders in a terrible condition, from the long-continued galling of badly-fitting collars. There were large running sores under the collars, which presented a sickening spectacle. Several canal-men were examined as witnesses for the defence; Mr. Kennedy having pleaded not guilty. Some of them actually testified that it didn't hurt the animals any to work them while in that condition, as they had reached that point where the flesh was completely dead, and all feeling was gone. One witness even said that a horse or mule would "strike out more lively," if he had one of those sores on his neck. Justice Kolbe did not seem to be deeply impressed with this view of the case, failing entirely to see it in that light. He bound over the accused to the higher court.

Kennedy's counsel contended that the cruelty was the act of the driver, and that Kennedy was not responsible; but it did not avail.

The other case was that of Charles Smith. He was using a team, consisting of one horse—apparently well fed and in good order, with the exception of great putrefying sores on the shoulders—and a very diminutive mule, one of whose hind-legs had been broken by an accident in a coal-bank. This poor brute, so crippled as to be seemingly scarcely able to walk, had been bought for almost nothing, and was being worked on the canal. Mr. Smith pleaded guilty, making a statement to the Court in his own behalf. He was fined ten dollars and the costs, and warned that he was liable to re-arrest if he continued to use the animals.

These cases are of much interest to the public, as indicating the plan of the campaign which this humane society proposes to carry on against those who violate the law. A few such prosecutions will undoubtedly exert a wholesome influence upon the "canalers," in whose hands horses and mules generally have a "hard road to travel."

OREGON.

We hear rumors that an attempt will be made in this city to organize a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals; and a strong probability of its success exists. An attempt was made to pass a bill through the last legislature, whereby persons could be punished for inflicting unnecessary cruelty on animals, by overloading, starving, or chastising them severely. The bill failed to pass for some cause or other, probably the fact that it was not lobbied with the assiduity required to get such a measure through a legislature where political consideration is the principal requirement for its adoption or rejection. Notwithstanding this failure, it is hoped that the next effort will be more successful; and, in order to insure it, steps will be taken to have a society organized here to give it moral power. Every State in the Union occupying any position of prominence has an organization of this class: so it is deemed but just that Oregon should also be prominent in all humane works. The society would have a labor to perform that would do much good, so we hope one will be started here. — *Portland (Oregon) Bulletin*.

ANCIENT HORSES.—It used to be stated in old-fashioned books of natural history that "the horse was the gift of the Old World to the New." But whole races of horses lived and perished in America ages before men went down into the sea in ships. There are now in Yale Museum the fossil remains of twenty-one different species belonging to the horse family. These animals varied from sizes that are larger than any now existing down to delicate creatures not bigger than a fox.

It is a great guilt in any man to allow what mental faculties he may possess to become rusty from disuse, or to submit them implicitly to another.

SAN FRANCISCO SOCIETY.

THE Sixth Annual Meeting of the Society was held at the Society's rooms, 614 Merchant Street, on the 21st of July, the President of the Society, Henry Gibbons, M.D., in the chair.

The following gentlemen were elected Trustees for the ensuing year:—

Hon. William Alvord, Jacob Z. Davis, M. J. O'Connor, J. S. Hutchinson, J. M. McDonald, J. B. Roberts, Charles Sonntag, Dr. Henry Gibbons, I. Friedlander, Col. B. C. Whiting, Ira P. Rankin, W. A. Woodward, F. G. Edwards, Dr. G. J. Bucknall, Nathaniel Hunter.

The President in his address pointed to the good results which have been accomplished in San Francisco. He said, "Notwithstanding the slight use that has been made of the law as a weapon of offence and attack, it is doubted whether there is, at the present time, any other large city in America in which brute animals in the service of man are more kindly treated.

"In carrying out the purposes of the Society as to inferior animals, a still greater good is effected on the human population, more particularly in relation to the education of youth. Whatever exerts a kindly and humanizing influence, and cultivates the better feelings of the heart, is greatly needed among the children of this city to counteract the brutalizing tendencies to which they are exposed.

"If any other considerations were needed than those which directly concern our own population to induce us to persevere in our labors, we may find them in the fact that our enterprise is but part of a great movement which is extending itself rapidly and successfully over the civilized world. It may be questioned whether any good work undertaken by man was ever so uniformly successful in accomplishing its purposes as have been the associations formed in America and Europe for the 'Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.'"

The Secretary, Nathaniel Hunter, in his Report says,—

"Unfortunately the law under which our society is organized extends only to the city and county of San Francisco, thus limiting our field of labor to a small portion of the State; but this we hope to have remedied at the next session of the legislature.

He reports 19 prosecutions and 13 convictions during the year. Receipts for fines, \$555. He describes the epizootic, but states that it was less fatal there than elsewhere.

The Society has fifty officers wearing their badge, and has distributed 24,500 copies of their paper, "The Animal's Friend."

PRIZES IN SCHOOLS.

Extract from Report of Woman's Branch of Pennsylvania Society.

THERE is so much that is painful connected with the work of our society, that we refer with pleasure to another and brighter side; viz., our plan of humane education in the schools,—a plan, by the way, which, it is but just to say, did not originate with us, but was first proposed here by Mr. Angell, president of the Massachusetts Society. We have begun to work upon this system, and find it brings its own reward, it is so interesting and gratifying to us. In the first place, we had a number of large cards prepared, suitable for hanging upon the walls of school-rooms, with the following inscription: "I promise to protect dumb animals; and may God in his mercy protect me!" We have begun to visit the grammar schools; and to each school we give two of these cards. The scholars in these schools are requested by their teachers to write compositions on the subject of the proper treatment of animals. . . . We then pay a visit to the school, award some modest prizes to the writers of the best three compositions, selected by the executive committee, have them read aloud for the benefit of all present, make two or three little addresses to the children, and are entertained with some of their exercises in singing, playing, or declamation. . . . God grant that the rising generation may improve upon the one that has preceded it!

SING SING (N.Y.) BRANCH SOCIETY.

THIS society held its annual meeting May 8, of which we have just received the report:—

The following officers were re-elected: *President*, Isaac B. Noxon; *Vice-President*, Aaron L. Young; *Recording Secretary*, Z. C. Insee; *Corresponding Secretary*, Miss Mary Dusenberry; *Treasurer*, Stephen M. Sherwood; *Executive Committee*, Mrs. C. O. Joline, Miss Mary Dusenberry, Mrs. John Boyd, Mrs. Dr. William H. Helm, and Miss C. Granberry.

Addresses were made by Rev. Messrs. Gregory, Lewis, and Lounsberry.

Votes of thanks were tendered to Samuel Watson, George A. Brandreth, and John Gibney, Esqs., for their valuable gratuitous services in prosecuting the several suits at law instituted by the society during the past year.

The society voted to offer a prize of ten dollars for the best essay, and three prizes, of five dollars each, for the three next best essays, on the subject of the "Prevention of Cruelty to Animals,"—to be completed for by the pupils of the public schools of the town of Ossining.

The secretary, Z. C. Insee, made his report, from which we learn that this branch society was instituted Feb. 21, 1872, when five humane and benevolent ladies assembled at the residence of one of their number, to take active measures toward forming a branch society for the prevention of cruelty to animals in this village.

An organization was effected March 20, officers chosen, and necessary authority received from the parent society.

An appeal was made for "material aid;" and two hundred and seventy-eight dollars has been collected sufficient to meet the expenses for the year.

Eleven cases have been investigated, seven prosecuted, many offenders reformed; and the moral effect has been quite salutary.

The report concludes as follows: "In these first operations of the society we have been met with opposition (not unexpected); for in this, as in all movements where the ploughshare of reform is driven into a hard and oft-travelled path, resistance is sure, and opposition certain. The society have endeavored, in application of the law, to act with firmness and decision, and not with that spirit of vindictiveness which some have attributed to us. The object of the organization is to prevent the habits of cruelty to animals by appealing to those feelings of humanity which are to be found in almost every human heart, and by punishing, according to law, those who inflict unnecessary suffering on the poor brute creatures that may be in their power. To have recourse to punishment is always a matter of regret; but the necessity of so doing has been apparent in some cases. These habits of cruelty are often caused by ignorance, many by thoughtlessness, and yielding to the sudden passion of the moment, rather than to deliberate practices of cruelty. Unfortunately, the victims are always the weak and defenceless; for the thoughtless, and even the passionate, are careful not to attack the strong, or those able to resent an injury, for that might compromise their own safety.

"The man is a hero and philanthropist, who, either by the sword or the pen, defends the weak and defenceless of his own race against oppression. Is he not also a philanthropist who protects the natural rights of all of God's creatures, even though they be not of his own race? We think the latter hero can claim the additional merit of disinterestedness, and a philanthropy not only to be commended by men, but which will have the greater commendation of God himself, the Maker of us all, who, while he numbers the hairs of our head, takes cognizance of the sparrows when they fall."

You cannot touch one link of spiritual fact, without drawing a whole chain after it.

Some other time, laying hold somewhere else, the same sayings will be brought to mind again to confirm the new thought. — *Other Girls*.

THE light of a cheerful face diffuses itself, and communicates the happy spirit that inspires it.

